

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8777
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 0683

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, SP
SUBJECT: CSCE--SPAIN

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SUMMARY: EMBOFF'S DISCUSSION JAN 26 WITH SPAIN'S NEW AMBASSADOR FOR CSCE AFFAIRS (PAN DE SORALUCE) CONFIRMS IMPRESSION THAT SPANISH PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE ARE ONLY BEGINNING BUT INDICATES THAT, IN BEGINNING, THEY ARE FOCUSING RATHER STRONGLY ON THE AREA OF POTENTIAL MEDITERRANEAN INITIATIVES. PAN DE SORALUCE LOOKS FORWARD TO CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH US COUNTERPARTS. END SUMMARY.

1. SPAIN'S NEW SPECIAL AMBASSADOR FOR CSCE AFFAIRS, JUAN LUIS
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PAN DE SORALUCE Y OLMOS, WHO WAS APPOINTED NOV 26, HAS READ INTO HIS JOB AND IS NOW BEGINNING TO SPREAD HIS WINGS. A CSCE TEAM HAS BEEN FORMED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND HE HOPES TO EXPAND THIS SOON TO INCLUDE OTHER CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MINISTRIES. (THE SPANISH MILITARY UNTIL NOW HAS BEEN NOTICEABLY DISINTERESTED IN CSCE IMPLEMENTATION.)

2. IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, VISITS BY HUNGARIAN AND YUGOSLAV VICE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAVE LAUNCHED PAN DE SORALUCE INTO INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE. THE HUNGARIAN VISIT IN MID-JANUARY PRODUCED, HE REPORTS, NOTHING ON CSCE BEYOND A REFLECTION OF QUITE PREDICTABLE POSITIONS OF OBVIOUS SOVIET ORIGIN.

3. THE YUGOSLAV VISIT LAST WEEK WAS CLEARLY MUCH MORE USEFUL IN PAN DE SORALUCE'S VIEW. HE MADE CLEAR HE REGARDS THE YUGOSLAVS AS IMPORTANT INTERLOCUTORS FOR SPAIN ON CSCE AND HE INDICATED SERIOUS STUDY WILL BE GIVEN TO YUGOSLAV PROPOSALS FOR BELGRADE WHICH WERE PUT FORWARD DURING THE VISIT: (A) THE CULTURAL YEAR OF EUROPE PROPOSAL; (B) A PROPOSAL FOR EXTENDING THE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MANEUVERS TO THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA; AND (C) A PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHING BELGRADE A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO DEAL WITH EBM'S. SEEMINGLY ALSO IN PART BECAUSE OF THE RECENCY OF THE SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT (JAN 21) TO MALTA, PAN DE SORALUCE INDICATED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY OF FINDING A CBM MEASURE RELATED TO NAVAL FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. (EMBOFF POINTED OUT SOME OF THE OBVIOUS DIFFICULTIES.)

4. PAN DE SORALUCE IS NOW PLANNING HIS FIRST CSCE CONSULTATIONS ABROAD, WHICH WILL TAKE HIM TO BELGRADE ON FEB 7 FOR 2 DAYS AND THENCE TO VIENNA, BERN, AND POSSIBLY OTHER CAPITALS. HE HOPES TO VISIT WASHINGTON AND EXPRESSED INTEREST IN OBTAINING AN ESTIMATE BOTH AS TO WHEN A VISIT MIGHT BE CONVENIENT AND WHEN THE US DELEGATION CHIEF MIGHT BE APPOINTED. HE VOLUNTEERED THAT IN LOOKING FOR SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN INITIATIVES AND PARTICULARLY MEDITERRANEAN EMB'S, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT FOR HIM

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TO KNOW THE LIMITS WITHIN WHICH SUCH INITIATIVES MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNITED STATES.

5. COMMENT: DESPITE HIS EARLY FOCUS ON A RELATIVELY UNPROPITIOUS AREA OF POSSIBLE NEW CSCE INITIATIVES, PAN DE SORALUCE APPEARS TO HAVE AN OPEN MIND AND TO BE GENUINELY DESIROUS OF CLOSE CONSULTATION. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO GIVE HIM MORE IN-DEPTH EXPOSURE TO AMERICAN AND ALLIED VIEWS BEFORE HIS OWN THINKING DEVELOPS MUCH FURTHER.

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